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**From:** Hough, Palmer [Hough.Palmer@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 7/20/2018 7:09:13 PM  
**To:** Goodin, John [Goodin.John@epa.gov]; McDavit, Michael W. [Mcdavit.Michael@epa.gov]; Frazer, Brian [Frazer.Brian@epa.gov]; Kaiser, Russell [Kaiser.Russell@epa.gov]; Eisenberg, Mindy [Eisenberg.Mindy@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Invite to Engage with Mitigation Providers Stakeholder on Industry Update Call  
**Attachments:** ERBA Comments re FL DEP 404 RuleMaking Notice.pdf

Folks:

The Ecological Restoration Business Association (ERBA) has invited EPA to speak at one of its monthly member calls. The next one is 7/26 at 11 AM or alternatively 8/23.

They would plan to give EPA 10-15 minutes at the beginning of the call to provide updates on topics that are relevant to ERBA and then 5 minutes for Q and A. Then EPA would leave the call. They are most interested in the following three topics:

- WOTUS process,
- Communications with USACE re mitigation program reform (e.g., are we opening the 2008 Rule as recently proposed by the Corps? ERBA has concerns about doing that), and
- State assumption (e.g., what the assumption process is, which states are considering it (they heard there are 9), and where are each of the states in the process). Attached is ERBA's letter to FL DEP regarding assumption to give you a sense of ERBA's concerns regarding this topic.

I spoke with Sara today about this request and told her I would reach out to my management to see if it was OK and to see who the best folks would be to address their desired topics. Recognizing their tasks span branches and staff, I reaching out to all of you for your thoughts/recommendations.

My gut feeling is that this is an important stakeholder group and we should accept their offer for an opportunity to interact with them on a semi-regular and in an informal manner.

Perhaps we could have three folks available for the call on 7/26 (or 8/23 if that works better) who could give a 5 min download on each of the three topics staying within the bounds of what is acceptable to share about each of these topics.

Let me know your thoughts.

Thanks, Palmer

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**From:** Sara Johnson [mailto:SJohnson@hf-law.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 20, 2018 2:47 PM  
**To:** Hough, Palmer <Hough.Palmer@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Invite to Engage with Mitigation Providers Stakeholder on Industry Update Call

Hi Palmer,

Great to see you in Louisville at NMEBC. The Ecological Restoration Business Association (ERBA) holds monthly Industry Update calls every fourth Thursday of the month at 11am ET to provide our membership with reports from ERBA leadership and key updates from Washington. We typically have 20 to 30 members on the call. Our members are always eager to interact with agency officials and we thought the Industry Update call could be a productive forum for us to hear from Washington the latest on regulatory reform and how ERBA could be helpful in that process, and likewise benefit regulators who can hear concerns from industry stakeholders.

Are you available and interested in participating in our next call on July 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am? Alternatively, we also would welcome your remarks during our August update on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We envision scheduling the agenda for the agency official to speak first on the call for about 10-15 minutes and then allow for about 5 minutes of questions from members. We are flexible in the topics discussed, but I know members would enjoy hearing about the WOTUS process, communications with USACE re mitigation program reform, and anything you could share on the movement behind state assumption. Again though, we are flexible and generally our members would appreciate the opportunity to touch base with your office.

Thank you for your consideration of our invitation and we look forward to hearing from you. Please let me know if there is any additional information I can provide.

Thanks,  
Sara

**Sara L. Johnson**  
*Executive Director*  
*Ecological Restoration Business Association*

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